

Suburban Gardener

The Perennial Bed Is A True Work Of Art

By BETTY FRANKEL
Perennials are the joy and delight of the gardener. The tender green leaves of daylilies spreading an emerald carpet, or the bright ruby stalks of peonies pushing through the moist soil are the essence of spring's rejuvenation. The wonder and magic are renewed each year as perennials come alive and grow again from roots that have lain dormant all winter in the frozen ground.

They are fun to work with because there are so many different kinds of perennials. Most bloom for only a few weeks, but it is a stimulating challenge to select an array of plants that will provide a sequence of bloom from early spring until late fall.

The gardener uses his creativity and artistry to blend this array of plants into a garden picture that is an expression of his individuality. A beautiful perennial bed is not only an indication of the gardener's skill and knowledge, but it is a true work of art.

sweet William can be blended into an ever changing tapestry of bloom.

In mid-summer the palette to be worked with includes gold or russet daylilies, crisp white shasta daisies, bright

Garden Reminders

Finish planting trees and shrubs that are dormant. This is a good time to plant broad-leaf and needle evergreens. Plant Forsythia after it has finished blooming. Continue spray program on fruit trees. It is too late now for the emergent crabapple killers. Use a pest emergent later in the month. . . . To control borers in birch and ash trees use a triple strength spray of malathion plus methoxychlor. To control borers in hick, peaches spray in mid-May and again 10 days later. . . . It is still a bit early to sow seeds of tender plants or to set out the little tender plants, but this is a good time to divide and transplant perennials.

phlox, dainty penstemon, spikes of blue veronica, or white or orchid physostegia. Play varying shapes and forms against each other for added interest.

Some flowers are shaped like flat disks or spreading cups. Others are like stars or fluffy pom-poms or tiny trumpets. Spikes give an airy look and bell-shapes are always graceful.

IN AUTUMN the asters and chrysanthemums bloom and can be used to fill a garden with color or they can be a little accent to compliment the bright hues of fall foliage.

Although most perennials have a rather limited period of bloom, there are some that seem to go on and on all summer. Cereopsis, gallardia, shasta daisies, balloon flower (platycodon), bellflower (Campanula), purple loosestrife (lythrum), rudbeckia, verbena, and violas are among those with a long period of bloom.

Compactors For Trash

If you have one of the new household trash compactors, you'll be better off limiting its use to trash alone.

This is the advice of one of the makers of trash compactors.

A number of homemakers are using it for garbage, which under certain circumstances can cause odor problems.

"Spraying garbage with a disinfectant isn't going to halt the putrefaction cycle," he said. "The most it will do is deodorize it for a short while."

"You're better off putting garbage in your garbage disposal and trash only in your trash compactor."

In the early 1960s, most food was brought home fresh daily from the neighborhood grocery store.

The household refuse ratio is now completely the reverse of what it was. It's about 18% garbage and 82% trash, with the trash composed primarily of food cartons, bags, cans and disposable bottles.

Rather than being an ecological improvement, the trash compactor is merely a household convenience that has found its time. It doesn't improve anything. . . . It just compacts it.

Home Improvement

Second Home Is 'In' Thing

Over 10 per cent of new housing starts this year will be for second homes, Prof. Karl G. Pearson of the University of Michigan told members of the Realtors Women's Council of Ypsilanti recently.

Pearson, director of the university's program in real estate education and a member of the Graduate School of Business Administration, observed that "second homes are a status symbol, provide for investment appreciation, may be used as a vacation residence and, when rented out part-time, qualify for income tax deductibility."

The bulk of the market for

second homes, he said, is among middle-income people. Their financing is now eligible for Federal Housing Administration (FHA) insurance, he added.

Mobile homes constitute a large proportion of second homes, Prof. Pearson said, noting that "double units, 24 feet wide, can be made to look like conventional homes. They come furnished, with two or three bedrooms, and equipped with the usual electrical appliances."

Condominiums as second homes also are becoming increasingly popular, particularly in resort areas, he said.



SITTING ROOM 1971 — The strong influence which European traditional styles continue to exert on the contemporary scene are shown in this 18th Century styled sitting room by Herb Rose, NSID. The traditional feeling is enhanced by an unusual wall treatment that combines Masonite's textured Surfstone paneling (right) with Teak wood-grained panels used on the primary wall and columns to create a striking herringbone effect.

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12'	1.32	1.98	2.73	3.60	4.75	3.36
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